IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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Inventor:

Thennati RAJAMANNAR et al.

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Title:

Novel Process for the Preparation of trans-3-ethyl-2,5-dihydro-4-methyl ...

Group Art:

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Examiner:

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

This Amendment is formatted pursuant to the Revised Amendment Practice (Rev. 2/03). Accordingly:

Amendments to the Specification are reflected on a separate page of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected on a separate page of this paper. Currently-amended claims are marked to show changes from the immediate prior version. To avoid the potential for the erroneous withdraw of a pending claim, all pending claims are listed, even if not changed here.

25 <u>Remarks / Arguments</u> are reflected on a separate page of this paper.